GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH <u>ABSTRACT</u>

Public Services- Agriculture Department- Smt. Ameenabi, former Agricultural Officer, I/ C,SSF, Kothapalli, presently working as Agricultural Officer, O/o the Joint Director of Agriculture, Karimnagar-Departmental Proceedings u/r Rule 20 of APCS (CC&A) Rules,1991- Penalty of withholding of 2 Annual Grade Increments without cumulative effect imposed by the Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad- Appeal filed-Orders- Issued-Reg.

AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (VIG.I)DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 396 Dated:30-03-2009
Read the following:

1) The Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad Lr.No.Vig.I(1)768/06, Dt:06.11.06

- 2) The Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad, Proc.No.Vig.I(1)768/06, Dt:22.02.07
- 3) Smt. Ame enabi, former Agricultural Officer, I/C SSF, Kothapally, Appeal Petition, Dated: 21.05.07.
- 4) Govt. Memo. No.7630/ Vig. I/ A2/07-1, Dt.07.08.07, Agriculture & Cooperation Department.
- 5) The Commissioner and Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad Lr.No. Vig.I (I)295/2007, Dated:09.10.07.
- 6) Govt.Memo.No.7630/ Vig.I/ A2/2007-3, Agriculture & Cooperation Department, Dated: 31.12.08.
- 7) The Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad, Lr.No.Vig.I(1)295/2007, Dated: 28.01.09

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ORDER

In the disciplinary case of un- authorized and irregular felling down the 38 Eucalyptus trees situated around SSF, Kothapalli, the Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad has issued article of charges Vide ref 1st read above against Smt. Ameenabi, former Agricultural Officer, I/C, SSF, Kothapalli, presently working as Agricultural Officer, office of the Joint Director of Agriculture, Karimnagar. As the appellant has denied the charges a regular inquiry has been conducted into the matter. In the inquiry, the charges are held proved by the Inquiry Officer who has observed that the appellant's immediate appraisal to the Joint Director of Agriculture, Karimnagar about the irregular act committed by the Assistant Director of Agriculture, Farm House, Kothapalli (I/C) that could have facilitated the Joint Director of Agriculture, Karimnagar for timely action and could have prevented the reputation of the Department getting tarnished. The Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad for the charges held proved against the Charged Officer has imposed the penalty of withholding (2) two annual grade increments without cumulative effect Vide reference 2nd read above. Aggrieved by the penalty, the appellant has made the appeal petition in Government Vide.the reference 3rd read above.

2. Smt. Ameenabi, Agricultural Officer, Formerly worked as Agricultural Officer, Kothapalli has stated that she has taken-over the additional charge of the post of Agricultural Officer, SSA, Kothapalli on 22.12.04 from Shri Aziz Ahmed Khan, Karimnagar. That, the irregular felling down of the 38 Eucalyptus trees has been taken place on 18.12.04. The Assistant Director of Agriculture, Kothapalli has himself committed the reported irregularity and that she had no prior knowledge of the occurring of the said incident. And that the Assistant Director of Agriculture, Kothapllai has only the responsible and she has not

been involved in the unauthorized felling down of the Eucalyptus trees. The appellant has therefore requested the Government to set aside the penalty imposed by the Commissioner & Director of Agriculture Hyderabad.

- Government have carefully examined the appeal petition of the appellant in the light of the charges, the role of the Assistant Director of Agriculture, Kothapalli and the findings of the Inquiry Officer and the other material available with the original record of the disciplinary case. As seen the findings of the Inquiry Officer, the appellant had taken over the additional charge of the post of Agricultural Officer on 22.12.04 and the irregularity has taken place between 24.12.04 to 27.12.04. The Assistant Director of Agriculture, SSF., Kothapalli has said that the irregularity has taken place on 24.12.04 and 25.12.04 (Christmas Holiday). The ploughmen who has received instructions from the Assistant Director of Agriculture, the watchmen, and the Agricultural Extension Officer have not reported the involvement or prior knowledge of the said irregularity to the appellant. The Assistant Director of Agriculture, Kothapalli has himself not made any adverse comment about the involvement of the appellant. As such Government has observed that there was definitely no collusion with the Assistant Director of Agriculture and no malafide on the part the appellant. However, the fact is she has not reported the matter to the Joint Director of Agriculture, Karimnagar which she ought to have done. However since there is no malafide intention on the part of the appellant Government have considered to reduce the penalty to withholding of one annual grade increment without cumulative effect.
- 4. Government hereby reduce the penalty of withholding (2) two Annual grade increments without cumulative effect imposed by the Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad to that of withholding of one annual grade increment without cumulative effect against Smt. Ameenabi, former Agricultural Officer, I/C, SSF, Kothapalli, presently working as Agricultural Officer, office of the Joint Director of Agriculture, Karimnagar
- 5. The Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad is requested to take necessary action accordingly in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

RACHEL CHATTERJEE
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

Smt. Ameenabi, former Agricultural Officer, I/C,SSF, Kothapalli, presently working as Agricultural Officer, office of the Joint Director of Agriculture, Karimnagar (Through the Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabaad) Copy to:

The Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad.
P.S to Minister (Agriculture)

P.S.to Principle Secretary to Government, Agriculture Department. SF/SC

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER